

CITY OF ROCKLIN PRESS RELEASE



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May 24, 2005

NEW TECHNOLOGY HELPS FIREFIGHTERS SAVE LIVES

Department adds thermal imaging cameras

ROCKLIN, CA – When searching for survivors in the middle of a fire, blinding smoke can be a firefighter's worst enemy. Now the Rocklin Fire Department has three thermal imaging cameras to aide their rescue efforts in low visibility environments.

"The safety of Rocklin residents is our number one priority and these thermal imaging cameras will transform the way we fight fires and save lives," said City of Rocklin Fire Department Chief Bill Mikesell. "We appreciate the efforts and support from the community of Rocklin to help us raise enough money to purchase this needed equipment."

Much like night vision goggles, these sophisticated hand held devices enable firefighters to see the slightest degree differentiation in heat - giving them "vision" through thick smoke. These thermal imaging cameras have a multitude of uses in a firefight including helping firefighters locate unconscious victims, pinpointing fire sources and even detecting hidden fires before they cause injury and death.

In recent years, expanding technology has made the thermal imaging cameras more accessible and affordable which has allowed the Rocklin Fire Department to be one of the first suburban fire departments to purchase these devices. Recognizing the benefit of such new technology to save lives and help fight fires, various community organizations rallied around the department to raise enough money to purchase these cameras.

Organizations lending their time and support include the Springfield Active Adult Community, Oracle, the Rocklin Fire Protection District, Rocklin Firefighters Association and various Rocklin residents.

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